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Security Information
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

COUNTRY France/Poland

SUBJECT Personnel Developments within Polish Firm BOTRANS

DATE DISTR.

CD NO

21 December 1951

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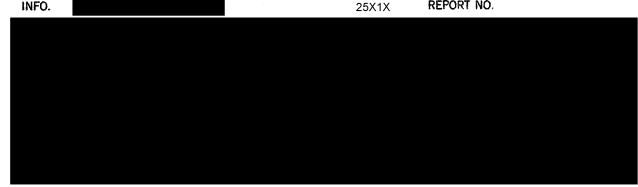
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.



- 1. Thadeus Oppmann, director of BOTRANS, a Polish import-export firm at 33 rus
 Taitbout in Paris, has been pressing for a reorganization of this firm in
 anticipation of shipping losses that will occur as a result of the new
 France-Polish trade agreement. The terms of this agreement place emphasis on
 shipments of raw materials, heavy machinery and vehicles and will consequently
 reduce retail merchandise shipments necessitating central grouping. These
 retail shipments were previously handled by BOTRANS. Future shipments to
 Hungary through BOTRANS will most probably be almost entirely in carload
 lots with BOTRANS' responsibility limited to that of forwarding agent.
- 2. The movement towards reorganization is considered a primary necessity by Oppmann to avoid further losses. This situation has served to increase the mounting friction between Oppmann and Roger Codou, manager of BOTRANS, and has resulted in Oppmann's request for Codou's resignation.
- Oppmann called for a meeting of the directors of the firm around 1 October to select a successor for Codou. Oppmann has reportedly selected Giulio Prini, official of TICE, Italian affiliate of BOTRANS, with the latter's approval. The dismissal by Oppmann of Georges Frank, former chief of service of BOTRANS was the direct result of Codou's failure to give information to Oppmann with respect to certain irregularities in which Frank was reportedly involved.
- The difficulties between Oppmann and Codou stem from the latter's continued refusal to follow Oppmann's directions regarding the management of BOTRANS and his disinclination to accept the responsibilities of his functions.

 Oppmann believed that a meeting in Milan with Gorodecki (fnu), director of C. HARTWIG, the Polish Central Transportation Agency, might lead to a settlement of their disagreement, but Codou refused to go.

25X1A 1 Comment: No information concerning this meeting is presently available.

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